

Statement of Sammy Hamilton

Owner Everglades National Park Boat Tours

December 31, 2002

Three (3) pages total including this cover

PRIVACY ACT

The officer investigating this marine casualty wishes to collect your name, address, telephone and place of employment. In order to collect this private information, the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552A(e)(3)) requires that you be informed, the primary purpose for which the Coast Guard will use this information, any secondary purposes for the information and whether your disclosure of this information is required by law or is voluntary.

1. **Authority:** The investigating officer, as a Federal Law Enforcement Officer (14 U.S.C. 93(e)) is requesting this information pursuant to the authority contained in 46 United States Code 6301.
2. **Principal Purpose for this Information:** The statement you provide to the investigating officer will be used to determine the cause of this marine casualty. Your name, address and information is needed or to clarify certain aspects of your statement. Your identify and contact information is needed in order to use your statement at any administrative proceeding which may result from this investigation.
3. **Other uses for this Private Information:** No other uses are intended for your private information.
4. **The Disclosure of your Personal Information is Voluntary.**

Statement made by: Sammy Hamilton Jr Occupation: Concessioner
Address: PO BOX 119 Everglades City, FL Zip: 34139
Telephone: (Home) 239-2758 Business: 239-695-4731
Time & Date of Occurrence: 12-30-02 2:55 pm
Location: Panther Indian Key Pass

Understanding all these rights, and having received no threats, promises of reward or immunity, I voluntarily waive my rights as stated above and make the following statement:

Sammy Hamilton Jr
Signature Date

W. Hamilton 12-31-02
Witness to Signature Date

WITNESS STATEMENT

I had just taken a break to eat a sandwich after our busy rush. The girls told me the boat was full and to have mate on standby if they all showed up. I was by the radio and the Captain left he didn't tell us we needed a mate. I have been here for over 45 years and have one of the best records as far as my boats and concession. My wife got me and said hurry, my man Stanford called and said Panther is sinking. I sent out 2 boats for rescue and returned all people back safely. Never have I been treated like this ^{before} from the Park Service they wasted our tax dollars having Kiefer Cause a maintenance guy & his self overtime. Which you ^{Coast Guard} guys don't get. Keith ^{GAD} was the only Ranger who helped and deserves credit.

I hereby affirm that the foregoing statement consisting of ____ pages is a true and accurate account of the incident in question to the best of my recollection.

Sammy Hamilton Jr
Printed Name

Sammy Hamilton Jr
Signature Date
Troy Ivey 12-31-02
Witness to Signature Date
TROY W. IVEY CWO